

TERMS.

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The very large and increasing circulation of THE TRUTH AMERICAN, in this and other States, will render it a better advertising medium than any paper in the city.

PAUL FENNER, Agent in Cincinnati.

The People and the Press.

We are placed in a peculiar position. Out of the Slave States, there is not a section of this wide continent in which we have not staunch friends; (indeed our drawers are full of resolutions in our favor passed at primary meetings of the people, and our table loaded with letters of sympathy,) but in no paper ventures to speak of us as we are, and, on our own soil, few Editors notice us at all.

The reasons of this all generous mind will understand and appreciate. The fact, however, imposes upon us the necessity, as well for the cause, as in self defense—to publish what we say, and what is said of us—not only that our position may be understood—but that Kentucky and the South may know what the world without thinks of slavery and of them.

Slaveholders, as is well known, are active and unrelenting. They will inform a New York Editor, at once, that his paper does not suit the meridian of Lexington, Ky., or Columbia, S. C., if he be bold enough to speak his mind freely. And so when they find a supple pliant tool, in any of the Free States, they will give him a little pat either in the shape of money or flattery, that they may use articles, written by him in the South. Thus, the Editor of the New York Courier and Enquirer possesses no one sympathy with the mass of men; his heart is cold and callous to all generous movements; he would as lief own a negro as a chattel, as change his principles for place or gain; and for any whim, prejudice or interest—because Mr. Greeley defended a man or measure, or to make himself popular at the South—or for a meaner reason still—would assail us, or any body, situated as we are. The assault is all the slaveholder wants. He cares not a fig for the tool he uses; he despises him as any brave man would. But the words of bitterness are no sooner uttered than they are circulated, and read, and as the slaveholder does this, he says to the people—“See how the celebrated Col. James Watson Webb, talks of Cassius M. Clay: he knows all about New York and the North; why the man has no influence, as his friends pretend, there or anywhere?” Then again when this same slaveholder, wishing to produce a false impression, quotes a line here, and a line there, and writes an article making us out what we never said, and say what we never thought, his slave master catches hold of it, and gathering his neighbors together, looking all the while as if treason lurked in bush and air, exclaims—“Horrible! We can’t stand this! Listen to what the celebrated Col. JAMES WATSON WEBB—no bravo, no cozening, gambling politician, not hated by associates nor distrusted by friends, a wise, discreet, truthful man, and a steadfast friend of the South, (this is sure to be put in)—listen to what Webb says of the opinions of Cassius M. Clay.” And these are given, with all the gloss of misrepresentation and falsehood, and our humble selves held up as a villain, when the cloak should be worn by the libel and heartless scoundrel, who, as the Swiss of the slaveholders, disgraces his position as Editor in a Free State, and degrades the rank the law assigns him as a free man among freemen.

To meet this assault, and to disarm the slaveholders—to show, if we may repeat what we have already said, what the world thinks of him and of us—to let Kentuckians know where the great public heart is, and how it beats—to be understood—we publish in detail the history of our action, &c., &c., at New York and Philadelphia.

On our arrival at New York, we received an invitation to address the people, which, with our reply, we subjoin—

Letter to Mr. Clay.

New York, 15th Jan., 1846.

SIR: Mr. CLAY has been pleased to address in New York, we venture to expect, the hope that, before you retire, you may be induced to deliver a public assembly on the subject with which your name and voice are so long and so powerfully connected. Following it is to be a noble deed, and to the cause of the human race, that you should have an opportunity, unimpeded by any party associations, to lay before the people of New York, the views of slavery which a Southern man, you are known to entertain, we take the liberty of asking you to do so, and to do so in some convenient place, during your stay among us.

We should be very glad to be present to hear you, and we should not then there are other citizens who have a similar desire, and would cheerfully attend a meeting for that purpose.

We are, dear Sir, with great respect, Your fellow citizens,

EDWARD CURTIS, ORVILLE DEXTER, E. C. BENDICK, HIRSH KETCHUM, R. M. BLANCHARD, JAMES HARRIS, JOHN LINDSAY, HENRY GREENE, EDWARD DEXTER, DAVID B. GIBBS, HENRY W. BELLINGS, JOHN JAY, ISAAC HOOVER.

MR. CLAY'S REPLY.

ASTOR HOUSE, Jan. 9, 1846.

GENTLEMEN: I had the honor of receiving to day, your very kind and flattering letter, inviting me to address the citizens of New York on the subject of slavery.

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